THE
Theatrical Observer;
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

" Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello.*

No. 5997. *FRIDAY, March* 12, 1841. *Price* 1*d.*

" The Play's the thing."—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

THE new Comedy of *London Assurance*, and the good old Farce of *Simpson and Co.* were the amusements here yesterday evening.

HAY-MARKET THEATRE.

LAST night Miss Helen Faucit took her Benefit, and presented her friends with *Money*, and *The Hunchback*. In the latter Comedy the *beneficiare* acted *Julia*, the character in which her first dramatic essay was made on the London boards.

Miss Emmeline Montague, who made so successful an appearance at Drury Lane Theatre during the brief management of Mr. Hammond, takes a Benefit this evening at the Victoria.

A new Opera, by an eminent composer, is in active preparation at the English Opera House.

Charles Kean commences an engagement in Edinburgh on Monday next. Elton and G. Vandenhoff have been starring at Liverpool with but poor success, A Miss Julia Nichol has been acting *Mary Stuart* at the Abbey Street Theatre, Dublin, and the Irish critics are loud in the praise of this young lady, whose tragic powers they say are not sufficiently known.

" Auber's new Opera, *Les Diamans de la Couronne,*" a Parisian correspondent informs us " has been more coldly received than was anticipated. There is not sufficient sentiment in the music. The libretto is by Scribe and Saint George, and the incidents chiefly consist in a commendable fraud practised by a Queen of Portugal, who substitutes false brilliants in her crown, applying the real diamonds to save the state from bankruptcy, without loading her subjects with heavy taxes. The means by which the substitution is effected, gives opportunity for much incident and bustle, but their is a great deal of twaddle in the piece, which should be cut out. Madame Thillon, for whom the character was expressly written, has been very successful in delineating the virtuous Queen, but the " lion" of the Opera is a M. Couderc, who is a most aocomplished singer.

We select the following anecdotes from an amusing biography just published from the pen of Mr. Peake. The " Memoirs of the Colman Family" will be found to prove very interesting. George Colman was appointed to the situation of Lieutenant of the Yeomen of the Guard on the 13th of May 1820; contrary to the usual practice the commission was a gift from George IV. On the first birthday that Colman attended officially in costume, his Majesty seemed much pleased with him, and observed—" Your uniform, George, is so well made that I don't see the hooks and eyes." On which Colman, unhooking his coat, said, " Here

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are my eyes, where are your's ?" Turning round to the Duke of Wellington, gold-stick in waiting, the King remarked, "George Colman puts me in mind of Pam. "If that is the case," exclaimed Colman, "the only difference between the Duke of Wellington and me is, that I am the hero of Loo—he of Waterloo." Colman afterwards had leave to sell this appointment, and in 1831 was succeeded in it by Sir Robert Gill.

It is related of Mossop, that he was so perfect a distiller of syllables, and made such intolerable long pauses, that in the speech of *Zanga*, in *The Revenge*, to *Alonzo*, "Know, thou, 'twas I—" the critic might at the first word of the speech have left the Theatre, called a coach, and returned to his box, and still have been in time to have discovered that *Zanga* "did it."

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer,

DEAR MR. EDITOR, I address you from GOODE'S *European Cigar Divan and Chess Room*, 39, Ludgate Hill, having just popt in to take a cup of Coffee, whiff a true Havannah, kill an hour over one or two of the Morning and Evening Papers—skim the Magazines—play a game of Chess, and one of Billlards—delightful and elegant place——Just wish to mention, that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends, and the fashionable world, at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town :—

Monday, stroll to MADAME TUSSAUD'S elegant Exhibition, Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker Street, Portman Square.—Just added to her unrivalled collection, full length figures of the Archbishop of York, the Lord Bishop of London, the Marquis of Londonderry, Lord Palmerston, Mehemet Ali, in costume, and Paganini; also splendid figures of Her Majesty, the Queen, Prince Albert in his military costume, and the group of John Knox reproving Mary Queen of Scots.

Tuesday, pay a visit to the Somerset Gallery, 151, Strand, next door to Somerset House, to see a most wonderful Exhibition, *The Industrious Fleas.* They dance, ride, drive a four-in-hand, fight, and in fact do everything in first rate style, exciting the admiration of all present. By the bye, this is Signor Bertolotto's Exhibition, that has been exhibited for the last eight years.

Wednesday, go to the *Cosmorama Rooms*, 209, Regent Street, to view the new and beautiful views now exhibiting here ; they are of the most interesting description, and deserve the patronage they receive.

In my way from the Theatre, drop into the *Harmonic Meeting*, held at EVANS'S Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden, quite delighted with the excellence of the singing—commences every evening at ten o'clock. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay a week, and only pay a guinea for bed and breakfast. I'm always to be found on Saturday, at half-past five, at the Convivial Dinner held here.

Your musical readers are perhaps not aware that MR. COCKS, of Princess Street, Hanover Square, the spirited Music publisher to Her Majesty, has been chosen by Messrs. Lanner, Strauss, Labitzky, Musard, Dufrene, Czerny, and Duarte Idos Santos, sole publisher of all their new works, and that no other house in Great Britain can possibly print any of their new compositions. A catalogue of the same may be had gratis.

Thursday, called at EMMETT'S, 27, Holborn Hill, to view his Novel Pen Maker, by which any one can make a superior Pen in less than one minute ! also his improved Needle Threader, to enable Ladies, whose sight is impaired to thread their needles with the greatest ease—a most ingenious contrivance.

"Why is one of PERRING'S Beavers like the Queen's first head dress ?"—"Because it is *a Crown* that sits lightly on the head of the wearer—one that will last through tumult and tempest, and though it may *reign* for ever, can never be injured."—Try Perring's Hats, not to be equalled for cheapness, lightness, and durability, at 21s. each.—85, Strand.

"All good *spirits* come to my *Beck*," at his Dr. Johnson's Tavern, Bolt Court, Fleet Street,—where you meet excellent company—capital fare at *fair* prices—delightful singing—(commences every evening at a quarter to nine,) cigars, billiards, good beds, and an enticing bill of fare.

Saturday, I examine MISS LINWOOD'S curious Needle Work, Leicester Square—lately added other beautiful specimens of her art.—But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's, &c.—PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, (8th Time) a New Comedy, in Five Acts, entitled

LONDON ASSURANCE.

The Scenery by the Messrs. GRIEVE.

The Decorations and Appointments by Mr. W. BRADWELL.

Sir Harcourt Courtly, Bart. Mr W. FARREN,
Max Harkaway, Esq. ..... Mr BARTLEY,
Mr Charles Courtly, Mr ANDERSON,
Mr Adolphus Spanker ..... Mr KEELEY,
Mr Dazzle..... Mr CHARLES MATHEWS,
Mark Meddle, Mr HARLEY,
Cool, Mr BRINDAL, Isaacs, Mr W. H. PAYNE,
Martin, Mr AYLIFFE, Simpson, Mr HONNER,
James, Mr COLLETT,
Servants, Messrs. IRELAND and GARDINER,

Grace Harkaway, Madame VESTRIS,
Lady Gay Spanker ..... Mrs NISBETT,
Pert, Mrs HUMBY.

Previous to the Comedy, the Band will perform the
Overture to .. "Zanetta." .. Auber
Leader, Mr. HUGHES.

To conclude with, GAY's

Beggar's Opera!

Period of the Opera, 1728.

The Player, Mr WIGAN, The Beggar, Mr GRANBY
Captain Macheath, Mr W. HARRISON,
Peachum ..... Mr W. FARREN,
Lockit, Mr BARTLEY,
Filch ..... Mr HARLEY,
Mat o' the Mint, Mr S. JONES,
Drawer ..... Mr KERRIDGE,
Mrs Peachum, Mrs C. JONES,
Polly Peachum ..... Miss RAINFORTH,
Lucy Lockit, Mrs HUMBY,
Mrs Coaxer, Mrs Emben, Jenny Diver, Miss Jackson,

To conclude with

A DANCE BY THE CHARACTERS.

To-morrow, London Assurance, and Brother Ben.

Theatre Royal, Hay-Market.

☞ Last Three Nights of the Present Season.

This Evening, (79th Time) a New and Original Comedy, in Five Acts, called

MONEY!

WRITTEN BY SIR E. LYTTON BULWER, BART.

Lord Glossmore, Mr F. VINING,
Sir John Vesey, Bart .....Mr STRICKLAND,
Sir Frederick Blount, Mr J. WEBSTER,
Mr Benjamin Stout, M.P. .... Mr DAVID REES,
Evelyn, Mr MACREADY,
Graves.....Mr WEBSTER,
Captain Dudley Smooth, Mr WRENCH,
Sharp, Mr WALDRON, Toke, Mr OXBERRY,
Flat, Mr WORRELL, Tabouret, Mr HOWE,
Green, Mr T. F. MATTHEWS, Fritz, Mr GALLOT
Page, Miss GROVE,
Lady Franklin.....Mrs GLOVER,
Georgina Vesey, Miss P. HORTON,
Clara Douglas ..... Miss HELEN FAUCIT.

After which, (10*th Time*) a Drama, in Two Acts, called The

King's Barber.

Alphonso, (King of Aragon) Mr F. VINING,
Count D'Aguilar ..... Mr WORRELL,
Marquis Villalba, Mr CAUFIELD,
Gil Perez...(the King's Barber)..Mr WALLACK,
Count Moreeno, Mr GOUGH,
Father Joseph ....Mr WALDRON,
Juan, Mr J. WEBSTER.
Pinchilla....(the Hostess)....Mrs W. CLIFFORD,
Paghita, (her Daughter) Mrs STIRLING.

To conclude with, Mr. Haynes Bayly's Farce of

Tom Noddy's Secret.

Captain Ormond, Mr J. WEBSTER,
Mr Thomas Noddy ..... Mr STRICKLAND,
Inkpen, Mr OXBERRY,
Gabrielle.... .....Miss CHARLES,
Mary, Miss MATTLEY.

Printed and Published, every Morning, by E. & J. Thomas, Exeter Street, Strand.—All Letters to be post paid.—Printing in General.